GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:750
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2017
Wastage of Food Items
Bhatt Smt.Ranjanben

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether fruits, vegetables and other food items get rotten before reaching the consumers from the farms due to mismanagement in food items;
(b) if so, whether the Government is considering to take concrete and effective steps to save these items;
(c) if so, the steps being taken in this regard and the time by which the same will be implemented; and
(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) : No report has been received regarding rotting of fruits, vegetables and other food items due to mismanagement in food items. However, as per a report of Central Institute of Postharvest Engineering & Technology (CIPHET), Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) published in 2015, the estimated postharvest losses of fruits and vegetables were in the range of 6.70% to 15.88% (fruits) and 4.58% to 12.44% (vegetables).

(b) to (d) : Government is implementing mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of harvest management and food processing of fruits and vegetables. Post-harvest management includes establishment of cold storage, primary/mobile processing units, pack houses, pre-cooling units, controlled atmosphere storage, reefer vans, setting up of ripening chambers and marketing infrastructure. Under PHM component credit linked back ended subsidy @ 35% in general areas and 50% hilly and tribal areas is available for creation of various types of post-harvest infrastructure. These components are demand & entrepreneur driven for which credit linked back ended subsidy is available through respective State Horticulture Mission. An entrepreneur can avail assistance for individual component or combination of different components.

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